

# MediaClips

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Cerrell Associates  
News  
KCSN Radio  
6:30 am  
2/5/04

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2/9/04

KEITH GOLDSTEIN: The Southern California Association of Governments says the quality of life in the region is deteriorating. The officials cited worsening traffic, pollution, a lack of affordable housing, and a flawed school system.

Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge says the area faces severe challenges.

The SCAG report issues grades. Southern California got a D- on congestion for being the nation's most crowded metropolitan area.

The report says significant changes must be made in the transportation infrastructure.

The region's air quality got a grade of C.

Brea Mayor Bev Perry says the state's proposals to reduce funding for transportation will only make the problems worse. She says vital improvements could be postponed or eliminated.

Perry says that will affect the area's long-term economic recovery.

SCAG also noted a lack of affordable housing. The region got a D+ in that category.

Southern California has the nation's highest percentage of households that spend 30% of their income on housing.

Education received a D. Less than 40% of the region's high-school graduates have completed the course work to be considered by the University of California or the California State University systems.

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